From: George, Mark

To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'

**Date:** 1/23/02 9:22am **Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I have been a Computer Programmer for the last 10 years and I do NOT agree with the settlement proposed by the Justice Department. It is too soft on the Microsoft behemoth that they are. Plus, the "punishment" is not immediate, Microsoft gets one year to "modify" their behavior after this is approved. They have had 5 years to "modify" their behavior. Here is how I see it.....

If I were to start burning down our forests...and we have laws protecting our forest. I still burn it anyways. The Justice Dept. comes in and says "Stop!" But I say, I am behaving normally, I should be able to burn all I want. I am going to appeal this law of burning down trees. And while I drag the justice system through the courts for 3+ years, I am still going to burn down the forests. So, after years and years of burning the forest down, and proof that I was acting illegally....I reach an agreement with the Justice Dept. I am no longer allowed to use matches (after one year of reaching the agreement). I pay no fines, I don't have to replant the forest, the lives that were involved with the forest burning....nothing.

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